

Honorable City Planning Commission
Cincinnati, Ohio

October 15, 2021

SUBJECT: A report and recommendation on a proposed street name change of the western portion of Missouri Avenue to Flinn Avenue in Columbia Tusculum.

BACKGROUND:

A request to rename a portion of Missouri Avenue in Columbia Tusculum was received from the Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOT) and the Emergency Communications Center (ECC - 911) in early 2021. By changing the name of Missouri Avenue, between Newell Place and Rushton Road, the homes can keep their current address numbers, which do not follow the set address range of the rest of Missouri Avenue. As shown on the map, Missouri Avenue forms a “U” and the eastern portion of the street will remain the same.

As the 911 Public Safety Answering Point for the City of Cincinnati, it is critically important to the ECC that addresses clearly and accurately convey the location of a building or property, and that the addresses will be within DOT addressing guidelines. During an emergency call, heightened stress makes it difficult for callers to articulate their location. Sometimes, they are only able to provide the nearest posted address. When an address does not follow a logical addressing plan, 911 Operators may not send help to the best location, or Police and Fire responders may be unable to find the person needing help. Making this change could make a positive difference during a future emergency.

The proposed street name is “Flinn Avenue”. This name was chosen with help from staff at the Cincinnati History Library and Archives at the Cincinnati Museum Center. Cincinnati’s first neighborhood, “Columbia,” was founded in 1788 by Benjamin Stites. The first wedding that took place was in 1790, between Jane Newell and James Flinn. Taking into consideration this historical significance, the intersection of this street with Newell Place, and being that there is no other street in Hamilton County with this name, Flinn Avenue was chosen to be the new street name.

COMMITTEE OF NAMES:

In accordance with the City of Cincinnati Committee of Names, Procedure for Processing Proposals for the naming or renaming of City Facilities, as empowered by resolution 16-2003, a request to change the name of the following street has been submitted for consideration:

1. The renaming of the western portion of Missouri Avenue to Flinn Avenue in Columbia Tusculum.

The Committee of Names voted unanimously in late August 2021, to support the name change to Flinn Avenue. The Committee of Names is recommending to the Director of City Planning and Engagement to change this portion of Missouri Avenue to Flinn Avenue.

PROCEDURE:

Pursuant to Section III, E of the Committee of Names Procedure for Processing Proposals: The Director of City Planning and Engagement shall consider the Committee of Names’ vote and recommendation and make a recommendation to the City Planning Commission. The Director is not

bound by the Committee's recommendation. The City Planning Commission shall consider the Director's recommendation and pursuant to its advisory powers under Article VII Section 9 of the City Charter, make a recommendation to City Council, together with any necessary and appropriate legislation.

NOTIFICATION:

Upon receiving the request, the Department of City Planning and Engagement staff sent out notices on August 16, 2021 to all the property owners and residents along the one block stretch of the western portion of Missouri Avenue via Certified Mail seeking feedback and providing contact information if there were questions or comments. 16 letters were sent out to the property owners. 4 were returned with a signature and 3 letters were returned as undeliverable. For 9 of the letters there was no return and no signature. This mailing was in addition to two previous mailings that were sent out by DOTE. There has been no opposition to the street name change to-date. The Columbia Tusculum Community Council was also notified. Staff received questions from the President, but the Community Council has decided not to take a position on the matter.

CONSISTENCY WITH PLAN CINCINNATI:

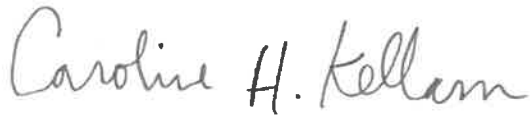
The proposed street name change is consistent with the Collaborate Initiative Area of *Plan Cincinnati* (2012), "to cooperate internally and externally to improve service efficiency" (page 217).

RECOMMENDATION:

The staff of the Department of City Planning and Engagement, after considering all relevant correspondence and Committee of Names, recommends that the City Planning Commission take the following action:

APPROVE the street name change of the western portion of Missouri Avenue to Flinn Avenue in Columbia Tusculum.

Respectfully submitted:



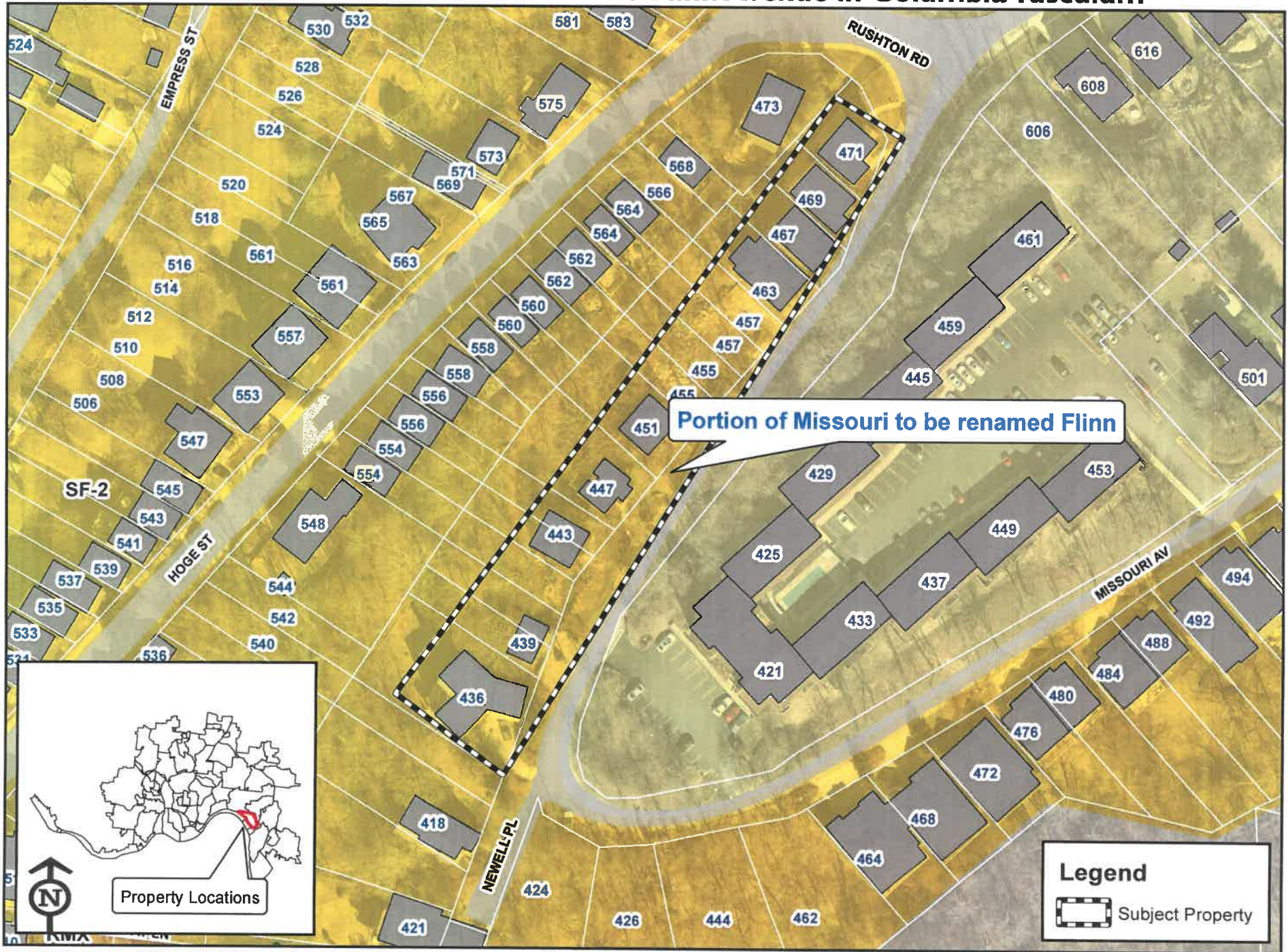
Caroline Hardy Kellam, Senior City Planner
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Approved:



Katherine Keough-Jurs, AICP, Director
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Ex.A - Rename Missouri Avenue to Flinn Avenue in Columbia Tusculum



September 11, 2020

Chris Ertel
City of Cincinnati
Department of Transportation & Engineering
801 Plum Street, Suite 420
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Dear Mr. Ertel,

I am writing to express agreement with the proposal to make changes to either the address numbers or the street name to resolve the issue with addressing, so that they are within proper DOTE addressing guidelines:

- Missouri Av

As the 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point for the City of Cincinnati, it is critically important to the Emergency Communications Center that addresses clearly and accurately convey the location of a building or property, and that the addresses be within DOTE addressing guidelines.

During an emergency call, heightened stress makes it difficult for callers to articulate their location. Sometimes, they are only able to provide the nearest posted address. When an address does not follow a logical addressing plan, 9-1-1 Operators may not send help to the best location, or Police and Fire responders may be unable to find the person needing help.

Making this change could make a positive difference during a future emergency.

Sincerely,



William F. Vedra III, ECC Director